

# THE SWORD OF THE LORD

and of John R. Rice

"And they cried, The Sword of the Lord, and of Gideon." Judges 7:20.

An Independent Religious Weekly, Standing for the Verbal Inspiration of the Bible, the Deity of Christ, His Blood Atonement, Salvation by Faith, New Testament Soul Winning and the Premillennial Return of Christ. Opposes Sin, Modernism, and Denominational Overlordship

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## Rebellious Wives And Slacker Husbands

BY JOHN R. RICE

(Continued from last week)

### Man's Responsibility to God

The responsibility that goes with man's position in the home is appalling. It is enough to scare any man when he realizes what God expects of him. In every home which is not a Bible kind of home the husband should be blamed first of all. He is accountable before God! If the home is not a success, the husband and father is primarily and first of all responsible.

After the fall in the garden of Eden, God made man responsible for the providing of food for his family. It was to Adam, not to Eve, that God said in Genesis 3:17-19:

"... Cursed is the ground for thy sake; in sorrow shalt thou eat of it all the days of thy life; Thorns also and thistles shall it bring forth to thee; and thou shalt eat the herb of the field; In the sweat of thy face shalt thou eat bread, till thou return unto the ground; for out of it wast thou taken; for dust thou art, and unto dust shalt thou return."

The husband is even called "the saviour of the body" of his wife in Ephesians 5:23. The wife and children should be all the help they can in earning daily bread and in the duties and labor of the home, as was the good woman of Proverbs 31:10, 31. Yet God expects man to take on his broad shoulders the principal care of providing for his own. That applies even to the widows of his family as you see from I Timothy 5:4, 8.

### Man Should Lead in Religious Matters

The husband and father should be the high priest of the home. That is clear from one end of the

## "...And For Me"

In Ephesians 6:18 Paul exhorts the Christians of Ephesus to pray always with all prayer and all perseverance for all the saints. Then he continues his command about prayer, "and for me!" He wanted them to pray "that utterance may be given unto me, that I may open my mouth boldly... that therein I may speak boldly as I ought to speak" (Eph. 6:19, 20).

I believe it proper, then, to earnestly urge readers of *The Sword of the Lord* to pray for me in the following particulars that God may be greatly glorified:

(1) That God will extend the present glorious revival at Navilla country church to His own glory. It is a Heaven-sent, Holy Ghost revival, remarkable in the manifestation of the Spirit beyond any plan of men and explainable only by the marvelous grace of God.

(2) Pray for the tent revival at Waterloo, Iowa, where this editor begins August 2nd, under the auspices of the Burton Avenue Baptist Church, Rev. Robert J. Wells, pastor. The editor is to be on a three station radio hook-up daily, God willing. Plans are made to care for crowds of 1,000 or more in the tent. I will be speaking three times daily and will need strength of mind and body and particularly will need the power of the Holy Spirit, wisdom, knowl-

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Bible to the other. When God came to the Garden of Eden in the cool of the day after man's sin, He called, "Adam, Adam, where art thou?" The Lord properly held man accountable, though the woman took the lead in the sin. In Numbers, chapter 30, the Lord clearly teaches that even a woman's duty to God is controlled by her father or her husband. The father, or husband if she is married, has a right to set aside any vow of a woman to God, or to establish it. Then the husband, not the wife, is accountable for any sin in the matter. Numbers 30:13-15 says:

"Every vow, and every binding oath to afflict the soul, her husband may establish it, or her husband may make it void. But if her husband altogether holds his peace at her from day to day; then he establisheth all her vows, or all her bonds, which are upon her; he confirmeth them, because he held his peace at her in the day that he heard them. But if he shall any ways make them void after that he hath heard them; then he shall bear her iniquity."

In I Peter 3:1 the Lord commands a wife to submit even to her unsaved husband and in Ephesians 5:22, 24, wives are commanded to submit and to be sub-

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 3)

## THE LAST JUDGMENT

We are putting in tract form the editor's sermon, "The Last Judgment of the Unsaved Dead" or "When Skeletons Come Out of the Closet, When Chickens Come Home to Roost, When Sinners Receive Their Wages, When the Doomed and Damned are Dragged Out of Hell to Face Christ — The Great White Throne Judgment of the Unsaved Dead." The sermon was printed in *The Sword of the Lord*, was used of God in winning souls, has been often blessed in revivals. It will be either twenty-four or twenty-eight pages and is being put in pamphlet form this week. As God provides the means, we will send it free, postpaid, to any one who will write for it. This sermon shows the difference between the first and second resurrections, distinguishes between the sheep and goat judgment of Matthew 25:31-46 and the judgment in Revelation 20:11-15 which comes 1,000 years later. It shows why Christians will not be judged in the last judgment and how every unconverted sinner will be brought out of Hell to receive a resurrection body and to face the record of his sins and then be cast soul and body into the lake of fire for ever.

We earnestly pray that God will use this message to save sinners.

We will make no price on this message. However, for those who wish to distribute copies we suggest that the cost of printing and postage in quantities to us is about \$1.50 per hundred. We specially urge every unsaved person to get a copy free. Get one for your unsaved loved ones and see that they read it. If any feel led to send money to our tract fund for printing and postage, it will be received in Jesus' name and every penny used as designated.

## Revival Bulletin

'Tis now late Tuesday night. The workers tell me that we had twenty-one people come forward tonight, eleven of them conversions, nine backsliders and one woman for membership by letter. This is city election night and McComb is excited over an important mayor's race, the law enforcement and liquor situation, and besides, it rained just an hour or two before the services, and yet a great crowd was present, the power of God was manifest. It seems that the plan of salvation is becoming plainer in the minds of the people and deep conviction keeps spreading.

Mrs. Wilson says that there have been 258 conversions, reclamations and additions thus far. One fine young man was converted in the morning service today. The rejoicing grows among the people, and tonight people stood about for an hour after the benediction, some laughing and others crying for joy, others having prayer for loved ones still unsaved. Thank God for this marvelous revival!

## Real Help on Matthew

Premillennial, Scholarly, Scriptural, Warm-Hearted, Verse By Verse Bible Teaching on Matthew by Dr. John R. Rice

The Bible, the book of books, is greatly neglected by Christians and even by preachers. A Scriptural, fervent, verse by verse study, chapter after chapter through the book of Matthew should prove a most life-enriching experience. The editor gave a six months' correspondence course through the book of Matthew. The lessons were beautifully mimeographed on notebook paper, size 8 x 10½. There are about 220 or 230 pages inclosed in a large notebook.

We know of no commentary on Matthew that deals so fully and richly with the kingdom teachings and those relating to the second coming of Christ taught in the book of Matthew, as do these Bible lessons. Here the term "the kingdom of Heaven" mentioned, used only in Matthew and nowhere else in the Bible, is carefully explained. What is meant by "the kingdom is at hand," why the kingdom was postponed, when the kingdom of Heaven will begin on earth are taught with many Scriptures.

The marvelous parables of Jesus concerning the kingdom in the thirteenth chapter of Matthew are explained and made clear as they cannot be made clear except in view of the second coming of Christ so clearly taught. The much disputed parables of the leaven, of the tares in the field, of the fish in the net and of the pearl of great price are rich with sweet meaning to those who know from the Bible the downward course of the age and the promised return of Christ.

No postmillennialist can satisfactorily explain the wonderful prophecies and parables of the Olivet discourse given in Matthew, chapters twenty-four and twenty-five. The downward course of this age

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 2)

## REVIVAL FLOOD-TIDE CONTINUES IN MISSISSIPPI

This is Monday afternoon. Today closes the second week of this remarkable country revival. However, a night or two ago some 200 people held their hands indicating they lived in McComb, and others come from every near-by community and town.

My heart is happy in the Lord today, and throughout the day I have felt praises to God welling up in my heart for the wonderful services Sunday. In these two weeks, about 225 separate individuals have come forward in the meeting. Most of them came as new converts professing publicly their acceptance of Christ as Saviour. Others came as backsliders, most of them having been a long way in sin and not even claiming to be Christians. A few of them, not many, came for church membership by letter. Very few have been children. A large percentage have come with tears.

Saturday night after feeling a little let-down in the revival, a sense of self-satisfaction among the Christians and a little falling off of results (only five adults came forward one night), I preached on "The Christian That Makes God Vomit," and dwelt upon the lukewarmness of Christians toward Christian living, toward the Bible, toward prayer and soul winning. The service had remarkable effect. By the score Christians crowded down the aisle to confess their lukewarmness and indifference. (Of course none of these were counted as conversions or reclamations). Later we found that several men had given up tobacco habits, several homes had begun the family altar and drastic changes began in a number of lives. Sunday morning most of the preaching period was given over to confessions of sins, and for one hour people confessed sins including cursing, drunkenness, lying, robbing God, picture show attendance, grudges and hate, prayerlessness and neglect of the Bible and lack of soul winning. There were many, many tears.

Sunday afternoon I preached by the kind invitation of Pastor W. A. Gill at the East McComb Baptist Church. The building was filled. One woman for whom prayer had long been made was saved, a young business man came forward as a backslider, a boy joined the church for baptism, and Brother Robert Hughes baptized his fortieth new convert of the revival in the mem-

bership of Navilla Baptist Church. Others have joined by letter, and several others yet await baptism. There were ten additions Sunday during the day to the East McComb Baptist Church, four miles from the revival, a number of whom were from our meeting, I understand. And I suppose a half dozen other churches received members during the day from the revival. Some converts announced their intention to join Baptist churches at Magnolia, Fernwood, and three Baptist churches at McComb, one Presbyterian church and one Methodist.

### Blessed Results Sunday Night

Every service has some remarkable feature, but I have been thanking God all day for those who were wonderfully saved last night. One dear old white-headed man, sixty-three years of age, has occupied one seat near the front to my left night after night. He had asked for prayer before. Last night he came forward at the close of my sermon on "The Curse of Hidden Sins" and said simply, "I will trust Jesus as my Saviour." His conversion was as simple as that of a child and yet his profession was bold and outspoken. Twenty-one came forward, only three of them children. Perhaps a dozen were mature men and women with families. The invitation was not hard as it sometimes is, and the converts came so rapidly that one waited upon another as I dealt with each one carefully myself and made sure that each one confessed himself a sinner and was looking to Jesus alone for forgiveness and salvation. One man said, "You certainly clubbed me over the head tonight. For long, long years I have had some mighty bad things in my heart, but God has forgiven them all. I am happier right now than I ever was in my life." He looked it, too.

One wife came with tears to admit her backslidden life and said, "I want you to pray for my husband." Then she looked up and said, "Why, this is my husband, Brother Rice!" He had come down another aisle and got to the front almost as soon as his wife. The lost husband trusted Christ and the two rejoiced together.

The electric lights for the revival are furnished by a little gasoline engine. Last night a belt came off, the engine got hot and died. Most

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 2)

## John R. Rice Will Be Home Sunday

The meeting near McComb, Mississippi, will close Friday, July 22. The pastor will be at home for services all day Sunday, including radio services on WRR (1280 kc.) at 7:30 A. M. Sunday morning he will speak on "Lessons From the Remarkable Mississippi Revival." Sunday night the subject will be "Almost Persuaded."

Your are urged to come and bring friends to hear these messages. Come praying and expecting a blessing from the Lord.



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With Unbelievers."

36 pages, 10c each, 60c doz., \$3.50 100.

## Sword Book Room

201 E. Tenth St. Dallas, Texas

THE SWORD OF THE LORD  
and of John R. Rice

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JOHN R. RICE, EDITOR, Pastor of  
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Revival Flood-Tide  
Continues in Miss.

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of the invitation was given by the dim lights furnished by the battery. Yet the Lord continued to bless, and we had, I believe, the most powerful service of the revival, although some other nights there have been more responding to the invitation.

## Dallas Office Girls Visit Revival

For nearly a week we have had in the revival and visiting friends in McComb, my daughter, Mary Lloyds, thirteen, and Misses Fairy Shappard, Eula Lee and Lola Mae Bradshaw, office workers who help the editor in Dallas. Each one of the four have won souls, and Miss Fairy Shappard's singing has been especially blessed to many hearts.

Many sweet memories come to mind about the revival. One dear woman was baptized Sunday afternoon who told me she had only been to church once before this revival in twenty-six years, and that to a Holiness church. She had attended four services of the revival before she was converted. She is a mother of ten children, eight living. Poverty, family duties and hard work had long kept her away from the church. But she said, "I made up my mind to come whether I was fixed or not." I will long remember the change in her face from sad despair to sweet peace and joy.

Then there was the young woman who had been resisting the call of the Holy Spirit in the invitation who suddenly said to the worker, "I see my Daddy down there! I'm going, too!" Thank God the father led the way.

Last night as a lady hesitated, deeply concerned about her lost soul, her unsaved husband said, "Go on with her, Kid, I'll go another time." She surrendered and came and later went back to plead with her husband. May God save him!

Christian literature has had a very large part in this revival. Many came because they had read copies of *The Sword of the Lord*. One unsaved man read a sermon in *The Sword of the Lord* and said, "I could trust that preacher, I want to go hear him." Many hundreds of my tracts and printed sermons have been distributed and have had remarkable effect. Mrs. Saucier, a dear old saint past seventy held my hand and wept as she said, "And that booklet on 'Can A Saved Person Ever Be Lost?' — we don't have much, but I wouldn't take \$25.00 for that sermon. All these years I have been a Christian I have been afraid I would do something, make some slip, and be lost forever. How I thank God I have learned from the Scriptures in that book that a child of God cannot be lost."

## A Revival We Can't Stop

The moving of God's Spirit is remarkably manifested in the interest of the people. I intend to remain for one week, and we are now about to begin the third week. In most revivals the preacher needs and the people demand one rest day. But in this revival the only service dismissed was one Saturday morning service. Both Saturday nights we have had a large attendance and numbers saved, and the same has been true on Mondays.

Difficulties cannot dampen the ardor of the people. For instance, every day the piano is carried fifty yards and up the steps and into the church house where it is used for the morning service, and then back again for the evening service. Every day seats have been carried into the house, usually enough to seat 125 or 150 people, and then carried back for the evening service. And yet all this has been done without complaint. A number of men worked all day Saturday returning some seats that were needed in various churches and borrowing others and went without the noonday meal entirely. Nearly half of the days I have

been here it has rained, and usually in the afternoon. A number of times I have had my heart become burdened and heavy at a real downpour of rain two or three hours before the evening service. It seemed to me no one would come. But to my surprise they came and practically filled the wet benches, covering them with newspapers. Once when the rain continued until service time, we were compelled to move inside, and the building was packed to real discomfort and a number were saved. The sustained interest in the revival when I had expected to return to Dallas after one week of the revival, reminds me of the colored man who, according to Thomas Nelson Page, caught a billy goat by the horns and then yelled, "Somebody come here and help me turn this goat a-loose!" Once I had already written for *The Sword of the Lord* an announcement that I would be at Dallas at a certain time to begin a revival and then had to telephone to have the printer take out that article because I had to stay! I suppose I have spent \$15.00 on long distance telephone calls explaining why I could not get away from this revival and making plans at home. I praise the Lord for a revival that won't die and is not hindered by weather or difficulties. I humbly and gratefully acknowledge that it is of the Lord, and it is marvelous in our eyes! At present we plan, God willing, to return to Dallas for Sunday, July 24th. But we are not any too positive about it! (Will announce in telephoned message Wednesday night, God willing, and print it in the paper).

State Baptist Paper Reports  
Revival

The Mississippi Baptist Record, organ of the Mississippi Baptist Convention reported the first week of the revival as follows:

"Dr. John R. Rice of Dallas, Texas, helped last week and this week in a meeting of great power at Navilla Church, near McComb, where Rev. Robert Hughes is pastor. From the first night the church auditorium overflowed. They moved outside and borrowed benches from three neighboring churches. By Monday of this week there were 122 conversions and reclamations, more than half of them new converts. Last Sunday those who had been received into the church were baptized in Clear Creek."

"In many ways this revival has been the best that I have ever attended. I have been to services where there have been larger crowds, but I think never have I seen people so convicted and ready to turn to the Lord. People coming to the services for the purpose of getting saved. Heads of families as well as others, coming, confessing, repenting and turning from sin." — Eula Lee.

## Robert Hughes Says

"God has shown that He loves and cares for country churches just as much as He does for any others. It seems that many country churches take it for granted that they can not have the best; that they must take God's left-over blessings. But the Lord Jesus has sent from Heaven such a mighty, Spirit-filled revival of soul-saving and life-changing caliber that it reminds me of the great country revivals led by John the Baptist, and of Jesus preaching in the villages and all the countryside 'round about. This revival, like those, has drawn people from the towns to the country, back to God and the powerful gospel of Jesus Christ. From the people saved tonight (Tuesday), five different churches will receive members; this shows how widespread are the blessings of this God-sent country revival. Thank the Lord Jesus that He is still willing to give all who desire it a Bible kind of a revival with God's precious blessings pouring out through the windows of Heaven!

## Help On Matthew

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)

with its increasing storms, earthquakes, wars and rumors of wars, outbroken sin, unbelief and false religions cannot adequately be taught except by a scholarly Bible student who looks for the second coming of Christ and who takes the Bible at literal face value, and so believes in the premillennial coming of Christ. The parable of the ten virgins, the prophecy about the judgment of the living nations at the close of the tribulation and the return of Christ, the regathering of the Jews and many other such matters are thrillingly explained in these lessons on Matthew. The crucifixion, the offering of Christ as the Jewish pass-over lamb, His resurrection and the great commission—these will make the study in Matthew fruitful beyond your highest expectations. These Bible lessons have proven very helpful to preachers, teachers and all students of the Word.

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The Daily Vacation Bible School was the most wonderful thing I have ever had the privilege to attend, and I praise God for the opportunity to teach in such a Bible School.

(Signed) Mrs. B. Kendrick

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## Rebellious Wives and Slacker Husbands

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)

ject to their own husbands "as unto the Lord" and "in everything." Certainly that would include many religious matters. I Corinthians 14:34, 35 plainly says that women even in the churches are commanded to be under obedience to their husbands and to ask their husbands about religious matters at home. Hear what God says:

"Let your women keep silence in the churches; for it is not permitted unto them to speak; but they are commanded to be under obedience, as also saith the law. And if they will learn any thing, let them ask their husbands at home; for it is a shame for women to speak in the church." (I Cor. 14:34, 35).

## LET'S PAY FOR CEILING NOW!

Dallas church members will be specially interested in this announcement. We have just put up the beautiful Insulite ceiling in our church auditorium. It makes the building much more comfortable, cooler in summer, warmer in winter, and better looking all the time. We are to pay for it in full, God willing, the first of August.

\$400.00 is needed right away, besides what has been given. I earnestly remind you of your privilege of doing it to the glory of Christ. Let us pay all we can of it Sunday, and send a check for what we have to send Monday.

Your pastor is away winning souls. God is wonderfully blessing His glorious gospel. I planned to be at home to help all along raising this money, but God had something better for me to do than raise money. Mrs. Rice, the girls, and I are giving all we can. You will all be faithful, will you not? Bring all you can Sunday, and prove your love and faithfulness to Christ. And if you are prevented from attending the services, will you not send what God wants you to give this week on the ceiling?

Thank you and God bless you. And do not forget the general expense goes on, too: janitor, office expense, light, water, and telephone bills, advertising, etc. You will not burden the heart of your pastor by neglecting these, your own expenses, will you? For the pastor himself, I ask nothing except what God puts in your heart to give, and as you know I never complain, nor have any reason to complain. I never ask more. God provides. But He is pleased for you to feel the weight of these church expenses and to feel responsible for them. God bless you, you will do it, too!

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God has plainly commanded men to lead in matters of religion.

### Joshua Chose the Religion for His Whole Household

We have a remarkable example of a Godly man in the case of Joshua. You will be thrilled to read again his last charge to the men and officers of Israel as recorded in Joshua, chapter 24. Notice that his address was especially to the heads of families and officers, according to the first verse.

"And Joshua gathered all the tribes of Israel to Shechem, and called for the elders of Israel, and for their heads, and for their judges, and for their officers; and they presented themselves before God."

To these Joshua gave a great address showing how God had brought them from Egypt, through the wilderness wanderings and into the land of Canaan, with a mighty hand and great blessings, and he urged them to serve the Lord. In verse 15 he came to the great climax of his address as follows:

"And if it seem evil unto you to serve the Lord, choose you this day whom ye will serve; whether the gods which your fathers served that were on the other side of the flood, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land ye dwell; BUT AS FOR ME AND MY HOUSE, WE WILL SERVE THE LORD!"

Joshua spoke for himself, "I will serve the Lord."

For his wife he said, "She will serve the Lord!"

For his children he said, "They will serve the Lord!"

For his servants he said, "They will serve the Lord!"

If there were grandchildren living under his roof he said, "They will serve the Lord!" Joshua said in effect:

"You heads of families choose for yourself and your families, and I will choose for all of mine, I will serve the Lord, and I will see that my family serves the Lord!"

God give us men like Joshua! Men who will serve God themselves, and then will take on their shoulders and on their conscience the responsibility before God and man for the religious teaching and guidance of their families! This is what God requires of the head of a family.

### Abraham Commanded His Household Even in Religion

Abraham was a friend of God, a man that God could trust. When the Lord started to destroy Sodom and Gomorrah, He said,

"And the Lord said, Shall I hide from Abraham that thing which I do; Seeing that Abraham shall surely become a great and mighty nation, and all the nations of the earth shall be blessed in him? FOR I KNOW HIM THAT HE WILL COMMAND HIS CHILDREN AND HIS HOUSEHOLD AFTER HIM, AND THEY SHALL KEEP THE WAY OF THE LORD, to do justice and judgment; that the Lord may bring upon Abraham that which he hath spoken of him" (Gen. 18:17-19).

Abraham commanded his children and his household after him so that they kept the way of the Lord! And for that, God blessed him and told him what was in His heart. God give us heads of families like Abraham!

### Eli, An Example of a Slacker Father

The sons of Eli, the priest of God, "knew not the Lord" (I Sam. 2:12). They were covetous and adulterers and Eli knew all about it and rebuked them lightly (I Sam. 2:22-25). However, Eli did not put a stop to the iniquity of his sons as a father can and ought to do and so the Lord pronounced a curse against Eli and his family as follows:

"In that day I will perform against Eli all things which I have spoken concerning his house; when I begin, I will also make an end. For I have told him that I will judge his house for ever for the iniquity which he knoweth; because his sons made themselves vile, and

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 4)

## "... And For Me"

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)

edge, boldness, tenderness and faith.

(3) The Fundamentalist Baptist Church in Dallas has a proper claim on your prayers. If I, their pastor, leave my own church week after week for the broader field of soul winning in other states, and constantly take my time and energies for the missionary work of getting out *The Sword of the Lord*, then surely God expects readers of *The Sword of the Lord* to bear the burden of prayer with me for this good church in Dallas. Pray that the Sunday School will be built up, that souls will be saved continually, that Christians will have a great revival.

(4) But I especially urge upon every reader that he pray for *The Sword of the Lord*. I am pressed more than any of you probably know for time. This is being dictated at 11:00 at night and oftentimes I work until past midnight on copy for the paper. Pray that God will give boldness and spiritual wisdom in preaching the gospel through these pages. And pray that He will supply our need.

We are sending the paper out at considerable financial loss each week. Remember that not a one of us gets a penny of profit or salary from *The Sword of the Lord*. Printing, postage, wrappers, stencils, etc., take every penny of all the money that comes in for subscriptions and advertising and then the deficit must be made up and the workers cared for otherwise. We will need something like \$1,000.00 extra money between now and the first of October, just to pay on printing and mailing costs of the paper, including some back expenses that must be met. We are trusting the Lord, and we want you to help us trust Him. Pray that, if it please God, He will raise up friends who will support this work as a mission project to the glory of Christ. Some, perhaps, ought to send offerings, weekly or monthly. Others should subscribe for prisoners in penitentiaries and jails, for preachers, for shut-ins and for lost sinners. All who can should renew their subscriptions promptly.

From Josephine, Texas, a dear preacher and man of God writes to send \$4.50 and to thank God that his sister was saved through reading *The Sword of the Lord*. God grant that multitudes may be likewise blessed.

So, dear reader, when you pray, will you remember the burdened plea of the Apostle Paul which is my plea also — "and for me!"

## Echoes From Daily Vacation Bible School

I had the joy and privilege of keeping all records in our Daily Vacation Bible School. We had a total registration of 579, our greatest attendance in one day being 302. There were a number of students from other churches. It was truly a great blessing to all who attended. We praise the Lord for such a teacher and leader as Brother J. A. Lovell.

(Signed) Mrs. S. Sheffield.

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Through His boundless love and mercy we thirty-one teachers and workers labored for ten days in a summer Vacation Bible School with over 500 precious children. Joys flowed like a river. I believe that each and every child and worker were greatly benefited and God was honored.

The children received the Word of truth directly from God's Holy Bible. They were taught a story from each the Old and New Testament each day. The memory work consisted of The Lord's Prayer, the Ten Commandments, the Beatitudes, the First Psalm, the Twenty-Third Psalm, and portions of Scripture teaching, the plan of salvation, the inspiration of the Scripture, the second coming of Christ, the security of the believer, and books of the Bible. Some of the children memorized it all. Each child learned some of it and was blessed, for we know that Jesus is revealed through the Word. Psalm 119:130.

(Signed) Mrs. Delbert Vaughn

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## Rebellious Wives and Slacker Husbands

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3)

he restrained them not” (I Samuel 3:12, 13).

A man is responsible for his family whether he wants it so or not. All the lying excuses will not change the fact that a man can raise his family and so teach them and lead them and discipline them that they will serve the Lord. In Proverbs 22:6 the Lord says, “Train up a child in the way he should go; and when he is old, he will not depart from it.” The Lord did not say that a child properly reared would come back to his father's way and a righteous life; the Lord plainly says that the child will never leave it “even when he is old,” or grown and out from under the father's care! Fathers are responsible for their children, even responsible for their eternal soul's welfare.

Children should obey and honor both father and mother, but God certainly holds the father first in responsibility as these Scriptures show.

This responsibility for teaching and rearing children to serve the Lord is so great that God commanded His people to be earnestly diligent about it. In Deuteronomy 6:6-9 we read:

“And these words, which I command thee this day, shall be in thine heart; And thou shalt teach them diligently unto thy children, and shalt talk of them when thou sittest in thine house, and when thou walkest by the way, and when thou liest down, and when thou risest up. And thou shalt bind them for a sign upon thine hand, and they shall be as frontlets between thine eyes. And thou shalt write them upon the posts of thy house, and on thy gates.”

A similar passage is found in Deuteronomy 11:18-21.

So rigid was God's requirement that fathers should rear their children in strict obedience and righteousness that He commanded that rebellious sons should be publicly stoned! The father himself, aided by the mother, were to seize the rebellious son who would not obey, bring him before the elders of the city and have him stoned to death! God commanded in Deuteronomy 21:18-21:

## Fathers to Have Rebellious Sons Stoned Under Moses' Law

“If a man have a stubborn and rebellious son, which will not obey the voice of his father, or the voice of his mother, and that, when they have chastened him, will not hearken unto them; Then shall his father and mother lay hold on him, and bring him out unto the elders of his city, and unto the gates of his place; And they shall say unto the elders of his city, This our son is stubborn and rebellious; he will not obey our voice; he is a glutton, and a drunkard. And all the men of his city shall stone him with stones, that he die; so shalt thou put evil away from among you;

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and all Israel shall hear, and fear.”

We are not under the strict penalties of the Mosaic law now, but this should illustrate how seriously in earnest and conscientiously diligent a father must be in the rearing of his children! God holds the father accountable.

## God Wants Strong Men, Not Weaklings, For Heads of Families

How much God expects of the head of a family! He is to be like a god in his home, verily a high priest and a prophet of God. The blame for the broken homes, the untrained and undisciplined children, the immodestly dressed and fashion-mad wives, and the whole train of evils which curse our American civilization must be blamed upon degenerate, weakling men, slackers and shrinkers and quitters, not willing to take the place of manhood and bear the burdens which God lays on men as heads of families.

Man, if your home is wrong, you are wrong. If your daughter turns out to be an immoral woman and your son a highjacker, you are to blame in God's sight. If your family does not live within its income, if they do not serve the Lord in sincerity and in truth, the responsibility is yours. If they have missed the blessings of the family altar, prayer in the home, thanks at the table, old-fashioned Bible discipline, God holds you to account for it. If you have not won your wife and your children to know the Lord as Saviour and to follow Him in daily life, you have failed your duty. How great is the honor of a husband and father and how heavy are his responsibilities! Any man who is not willing to take the place God assigned to the husband and father is not fit to marry a good woman nor to bring helpless children into this world.

If a man reads this who is not truly born again and a successful every-day Christian, then for the sake of your family and for Jesus' sake, get right with God today lest you should lead your family to utter ruin away from God! Only God can make a man what he must be to be a good husband and father. Seek His help today and every day, if that position is yours.

## God Commands Wives First, Then Husbands

Every time God gives orders to husbands and wives about their treatment of each other in the Bible, He speaks to wives first, then husbands. When He commands fathers and children about their duties to each other, He commands children first and then fathers. He commands servants first, then masters, subjects first, then rulers. God wants no excuse left to subjects who do not want to obey their rulers, a servant who does not want to obey his master, a child who does not want to obey his father, or a wife who does not want to obey her husband. When God speaks to people about their duties to Him, He speaks first to men. Where He speaks to people concerning their duties to others, He speaks first to wives, then to husbands. See how this works out in the passage beginning with Ephesians 5:1 and ending with Ephesians 6:9. See the same thing in the passage beginning with Colossians 3:18 and ending with Colossians 4:1, and likewise in I Timothy 6:12.

That rule is followed every place in the Bible where duties of wives and husbands to each other are discussed. Read carefully Genesis 3:16, 17; Ephesians 5:22-25, Colossians 3:18, 19, and I Peter 3:1-7.

God wants children to obey their parents even if the parents are wicked. Servants should obey their masters even if they are sometimes unkind. Citizens should obey the laws of their country even though they be administered by wicked and corrupt men. Likewise, God expects women to feel their duty to obey their husbands, good or bad, saved or unsaved. Nowhere in the Bible is a wife's duty to her husband conditioned on the kind of character he has or the way he treats her. The divine order in giving commands to men and women could not be an accident, but is evidently meant to leave those who should obey without any excuse for not doing so.

(Continued next issue)

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